

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of controlling switching of an operation mode of a TV
 phone. The TV phone includes a TV unit that reproduces and outputs a
 video signal and an audio signal from a selected channel. A display unit
 5 interfaces with the TV unit and receives and displays the video signals
 from the TV unit while in a TV mode. A TV audio signal processor
 receives the audio signal from the TV unit and outputs audible sound. An
 MRFU receives data of a forward channel transmitted from a base station.
 An MSP provides a channel selecting signal to the TV unit in the TV mode
 and transmits and receives an audio signal input from the MRFU in a
 phone mode. The method comprises the steps of alerting the user of an
 incoming call in response to an incoming call signal transmitted from the
 base station when the TV phone is in a TV mode and switching from the
 TV mode to the phone mode, the switching preferably including disabling
 the operation of the TV unit.